

## ACCEPTS BERLINS PLEDGE

U. S. WILL TAKE NO ACTION UNLESS IT IS VIOLATED.

**Final Decision in the Future.—Authoritatively Stated That German Answer Will Serve if Fulfilled.**

Washington, May 5.—Germany's note has postponed, if it actually has not averted, a diplomatic break with the United States.

President Wilson will make the decision after he has received the official text, which reached the State department late tonight by cable from Berlin. It will be decided in time to lay it before the president tomorrow morning.

It was stated authoritatively after the cabinet meeting today that if the official text bore out the unofficial version transmitted in today's Berlin news dispatches, Germany's assurance undoubtedly would be accepted and before taking another step the United States would await the fulfillment of her latest promises.

In such case the United States might not reply to the note and would await evidence of the abandonment of Germany's present practices of submarine warfare which is declared. President Wilson is described by those close about him as being in a position where he cannot question the good faith of Germany's assurances which must stand or fall by the future conduct of her submarine commanders.

### All That is Asked.

The German embassy view is that the note gives all President Wilson asked for; that it signals a return to "cruiser warfare"—the use of submarines as regular naval cruisers intercepting commerce with visit and search, and that inasmuch as it makes no mention of the armed ship question that perplexing feature of the controversy is not involved.

Congress took the note quietly and although members expressed a variety of views, the general sentiment seemed to be in favor of leaving the situation in the hands of the president. On the surface there was no sign of activity in the group which has been working to prevent the president from pressing the situation to the point of a diplomatic rupture.

### Left to Future.

Cabinet members went over the unofficial text carefully with the president and while they uniformly refused to discuss it, they reflected the view that a break has been averted; that Germany's new assurances would be accorded the test of time, notwithstanding the reference to the action Germany expects the United States to take against Great Britain's restraints on neutral trade. They expressed this view with full realization of the differences of opinion on what constitutes a peaceful merchant ship entitled to the protection of international law and of the president's steadfast determination not to permit the interests of the United States with one of the belligerents to become entangled with those of another.

The United States only recently, declaring its views on the rights of merchant ships on the high seas, recognized and provided for the condition under which Germany charges British merchant ships, by orders of the British admiralty, actually are acting as naval war vessels in attacking submarines.

### Another Open Point.

Germany in her note "reserves complete liberty of decision" should the United States fail to prevail upon Great Britain to bring her practice into conformity with international law. The official view is that the United States for some time has been and now is conducting diplomatic correspondence with Great Britain on that subject and the success or failure of the negotiations and Germany's consequent action must necessarily remain for the future.

The United States does not know how Germany's new instructions to submarine commanders compare with previous instructions which were given at the behest of President Wilson. Secretary Lansing stated today that it was possible the State department might ask for official copies of the original orders. The new orders, however, apparently are regarded as meeting the president's demand for a declaration and abandonment of the present practices of submarine warfare. Officials seem agreed that the president's demand that Germany also "effect" such an abandonment only could be answered by time.

### Difference of View.

Under such circumstances one set of officials feel the threatened break will not come at this time; another, set is convinced that Germany's apparent determination to make the fulfillment of her promises conditional upon the success of the president's negotiations with Great Britain warrants the severance of diplomatic relations.

At the State department, after the situation had been thoroughly discussed at the cabinet meeting, it was

## SWEET POTATO DISEASES.

Some Timely Pointers Which Should Be Kept in Mind at Bedding Time.

As the time approaches for bedding sweet potatoes the war in which some of the more troublesome of the sweet potato diseases get into the field and spread should be kept in mind.

Black rot of sweet potato which is probably the most common of the sweet potato diseases lives over winter on the potatoes in the form of small black or dark colored blotches or spots on the surface. Where potatoes affected with this trouble are used for seed the disease gets into the sprouts that come from these and is carried directly into the field. Here the disease attacks the roots and the potatoes and after causing considerable damage is brought back again into the banks or storage houses the next fall. Potatoes used for seed should be free from this disease.

There are several other diseases of sweet potatoes that can be detected on the seed and that spread in exactly the same way that the black rot does. In picking out potatoes for seed these should be looked for and wherever found the seed affected with them should be discarded or if clean seed cannot be secured they should be treated with formalin solution as indicated above. These diseases live on the tubers and roots but do not attack the vines so where potatoes are grown later in the season from cuttings from vines the disease would not be present. This is the reason why potatoes grown from vines keep better than those grown from slips. It is well to grow seed potatoes for next year in this way from cuttings made from the vines.

### Cotton First to Discount Peace?

With the war entering the third cotton season, the trade is speculating on the effects of the end of hostilities on cotton prices.

"What amount of cotton will Germany and Austria take?" It has been asserted that Germany has control of a large part of the Southern holdings but if she really had options on any large quantity the fact could scarcely be concealed from the trade. In the past the central empires have taken approximately 3,000,000 bales of American cotton annually. It is roughly estimated that since the war commenced, Germany has obtained through Scandinavian nations and direct shipments permitted early in the war—2,500,000 bales. To this might be added about 300,000 bales seized in Belgium, Poland and northern France. In August of this year the central empires should be behind about 3,000,000 bales. Austria, in particular, is in woeful need. From time to time the Red Cross has sent out urgent pleas for cotton necessities in hospital work.

Cotton men think their market will be the first to discount peace and this they believe will occur perhaps six months before actual negotiations begin.

In view of Germany's great need, it is argued that English cotton interests will obtain all they can of the staple before peace is declared. If this latter argument, which is used by many in the trade, is correct, peace is not on the tapis at the moment for Liverpool general stocks are but 910,000 bales against 1,467,000 for the same period a year ago. Afloat for Liverpool there are 182,000 bales against 425,000 at the same time in 1915.—Wall Street Journal.

### Giving Her Something to Do.

Not far from Bath a certain villager went to a lady, says the Philadelphia Ledger, who kept poultry, to purchase a setting of eggs. The lady, not having many on hand, inquired:

"Have you got your broody hen?" "Well, no," replied the villager, "but our old hen has broken her leg, and I thought she might as well spend her time hatching out some eggs as sit about doing nothing."

stated that because of the length of the note the time required for digesting it carefully and the necessity of having at hand the official text for the preservation of all shades of meaning which might be obscured in translation or in wireless transmission, it practically was certain that the president would not reach his decision before next week.

Out of it all two things were made clear. They were that the United States still holds firmly to its determination that "mistakes" of submarine commanders are not admissible; that they are unforgivable, and that the United States must continue to regard a discussion of the conduct of other belligerents as irrelevant to its discussion of Germany's conduct.

While the tone of the German note was said to be disappointing, most officials expressed the view that after all the language was immaterial if the assurances were all that had been asked for.

## MANUFACTURE OF PAPER.

Indispensable Commodity Often Subject to Handicap.

From time to time, almost from the very earliest days of the war, there has arisen in many European countries a shortage of paper. Many factors, often unlooked for, have contributed to bring about this result, a scarcity of labor, the increased cost of shipping freights, and deficiency in the supply of the many and various ingredients which go to the making of paper, in all its many forms of today.

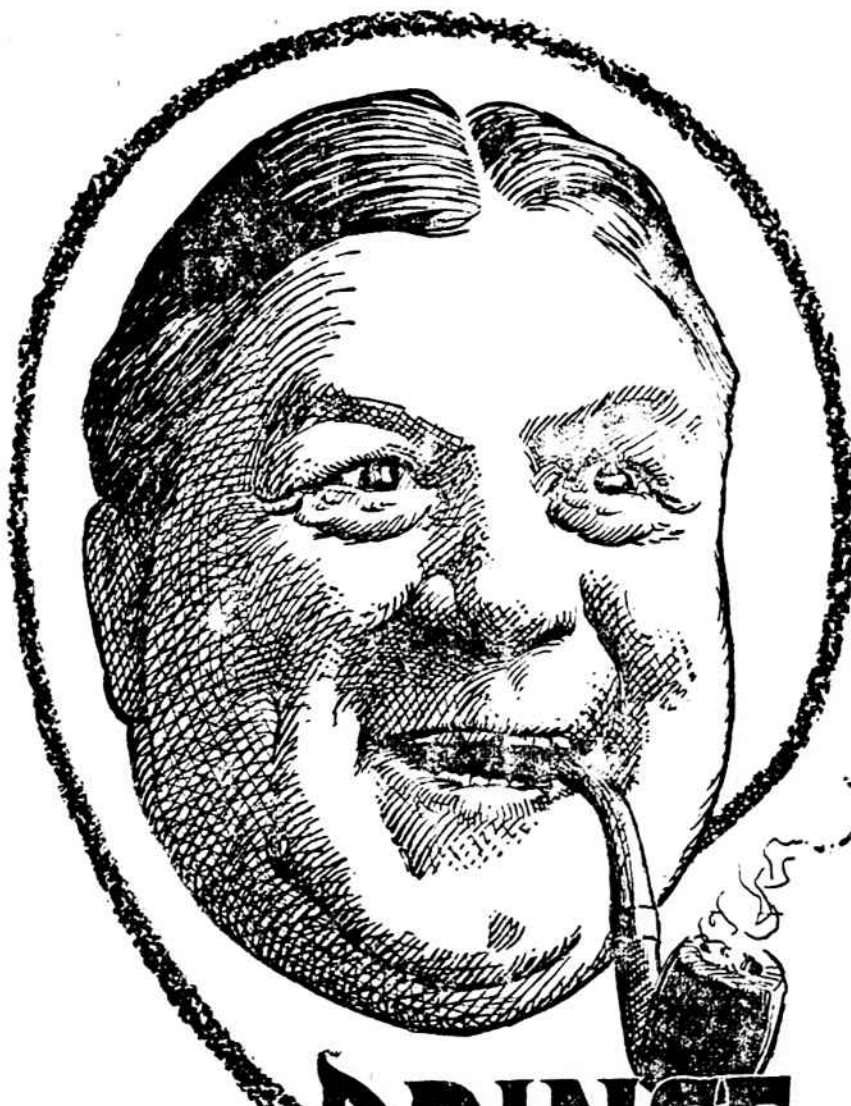
A story is told of how, something more than eleven hundred years ago—to be precise it was in the year 751—a Chinese force marched in Samarkand, which for some years had been occupied by the Arabs, thinking to take the city and expel the intruder. The Arab governor, however, was an able general, and marshaled his men well. He not only repelled the invasion, but took up a vigorous pursuit of the invaders. He captured prisoners. Amongst them he found men who were skilled in the art of making paper, and that was the beginning of it. The craft quickly spread throughout the Arab dominions and, in process of time, trade brought the products to Greece. Theophilus, writing about that time, speaks of the paper as Greek parchment, and there is a record that the Empress Irene used it for the framing of certain rules for the nuns of Constantinople.

It was only the paper, however, that came, and not the art of making it. This was first introduced into Europe by the Moors, also about the twelfth century. They had a great part of Spain in those days, and the industry quickly grew. It was good paper, "cloth parchment" it is styled in the laws of Alfonso, of 1263, and well styled, for it was stout of substance, and could withstand much hard use. At Xativa, Valencia and Toledo the industry grew and flourished until the fall of the Moorish power. And then came a chance. The Christian conquerors were less skilled, and the great industry deteriorated, both as to quality and quantity. Meanwhile, however, the Arabs had brought their knowledge of the craft with them when they invaded Sicily. The oldest known document on paper is a deed of King Roger, of Sicily, bearing the date 1102. From Sicily paper making ultimately spread to Italy, and there it became a great industry. From Italy it extended to France and Germany. In 1297 Pace de Fabriano was making paper in Italy, from rags and flax, and, a short time afterwards, regular mills appeared in Padua and Treviso. Ninety years or so later, the famous Stromer is setting up his paper mills in Nuremberg, and taking an oath, of truly awesome solemnity, from his men that they will keep secret his processes.

And then the art reached England, and, in Wynkyn de Worde's "De Proprietatibus Rerum," printed in 1495 at Caxton's Press, we find mention of a paper mill at Stevenage in Hertfordshire, kept by one John Tate. Master Spielman, with his ten years' license from Queen Elizabeth to make paper at Rartford in Kent, is the next great figure in the English paper trade, and so on to the establishment of the famous mill at Maidstone, where John Watman turned out his paper in and around the year 1760. In 1799 came machinery, and, from the small mill at Bovmoore in Hertfordshire, where Fourdrinier, the inventor, first set up his plant, the industry spread all over the country. With the repeal of the paper duty, in 1860, the long story of paper making reaches our own times.—Christian Science Monitor.

### Making a Farce of Efficiency.

It was right for the Dartmouth College teacher to talk frankly to the students of the university regarding the use and abuse of the word "efficiency." He said that what was in reality a good thing was in grave danger of being turned into a farce. He said that tens of thousands of dollars were being wasted in the experiment of engaging and dismissing employees on the strength of their complexion and the facial curves of their faces. That convex-faced men were more gifted as executives than concave faced men he said, was pure nonsense. He might have added that hundreds of thousands of dollars have been wasted, even by the corporations, in testing "efficiency" methods of keeping their accounts—methods that have proved to be worthless. All of this goes to show that it is possible to overdo a good thing. It is perfectly wise and proper for a concern to look out for the most economical and effective methods of transacting its business. It is well to search for the leaks, too, for much money is lost in a sane and rational way. A knowledge of human nature in the matter of employing and dismissing men, for instance, is worth more than all of the charts and rules that were ever devised by the efficiency experts.—Philadelphia Inquirer.



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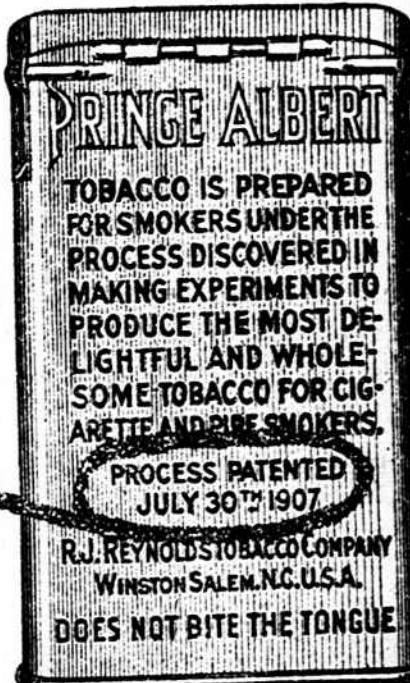
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To all and singular the Kindred and Creditors of C. B. Free, deceased: Take notice that the undersigned will apply to the Judge of Probate at his office, Bamberg, S. C., on the 23rd day of May, 1916, at ten o'clock, a. m., for a discharge from the office of Administratrix of said estate. LIZZIE M. FREE, Administratrix of the estate of C. B. Free, deceased. April 22nd, 1916.—4t.

### NOTICE.

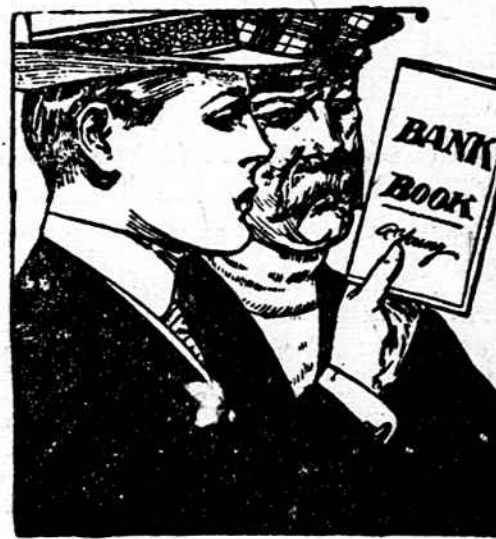
I will file my final accounting as administratrix on the estate of J. I. Kinard, deceased, with G. P. Harmon, Judge of Probate, on Saturday, May 27th, at 11 a. m. All persons having claims against said estate will file same before said date, or be forever barred.

MRS. S. N. KINARD, Administratrix.  
April 26, 1916.

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